

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 12450 251049Z

53

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USSS-00 ACDA-19 AID-20 OMB-01 OPR-02 EUR-25 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AF-10 DRC-01 /182 W

----- 073424

R 251012Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4900

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

DIA WASHDC

USMISSION USUN

CINCEUR

USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 12450

DEPT PASS CAIRO

E.O. 11652: NGDS

TAGS: PINS SY

SUBJECT: SYRIAN INTERNAL SITUATION

REF: AMMAN 5665 AND 5675

INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US ON SYRIAN SITUATION FROM SEVERAL DIFFERENT RELIABLE SOURCES CONFIRMS VIEW REPORTED AMMAN REFTELS. ALTHOUGH SYRIAN ARMY BADLY HURT, MORALE NEVER BROKE NOR DID DETERMINATION TO FIGHT LAG. SOME MAJOR UNITS OF ARMY IN PROCESS REORGANIZING AND REEQUIPPING WHEN CEASE-FIRE ACCEPTED. GENERAL FEELING AMONG ARMY, INCLUDING WOUNDED OFFICERS WHO HOSPITALIZED BEIRUT BUT RETURNED TO UNITS ON HEARING OF CEASE-FIRE, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 12450 251049Z

IS THAT SARG SHOULD NOT HAVE ACCEPTED IT. MORALE OF

CIVILIAN POPULATION ALSO HIGH, WITH DETERMINATION WAGE
"POPULAR WAR" DESPITE HEAVY DAMAGE TO ECONOMIC SECTOR.
ON OTHER HAND, SYRIAN PARTICIPATION IN WAR AND RELATIVE
SUCCESS OF ITS ARMY GREATLY INCREASED STRENGTH OF PRESIDENT
ASSAD AND AT LEAST TEMPORARILY EFFACED USUAL SYRIAN
SECTARIAN AND POLITICAL DISSENSION. IT WAS THIS STRENGTH
PLUS SUPPORT OF USSR, EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA (BY MEANS OF
POL EMBARGO ON US) WHICH ENABLED ASSAD PUSH THROUGH HIS
DECISION ACCEPT CEASE-FIRE. HIS ABILITY HOLD OUT FOR
LONG IF THERE NO VISIBLE POLITICAL GAINS FROM SUCH DECISION
IS CONSIDERED, AS NOTED REFTTEL, "DICEY". HOSTILE PRESSURES
COMING FROM IRAQIS, IRAQI-LINING MEMBERS OF SYRIAN BAATH,
AND FEDAYEEN. BUFFUM

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAR, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, POLITICAL SITUATION, POPULAR SUPPORT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BEIRUT12450
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS BUFFUM
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731013/aaaaajer.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: AMMAN 5665 AND 5675
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <10-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN INTERNAL SITUATION
TAGS: PINS, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005